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in print

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web gallery

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industry

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site guide

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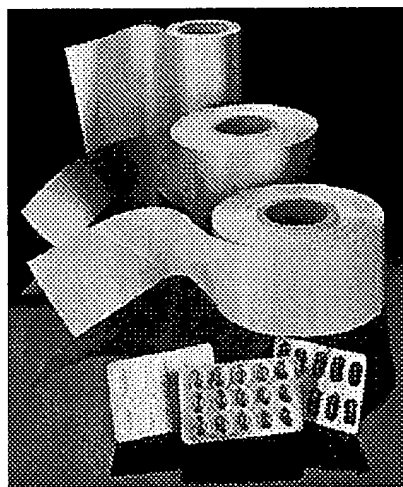
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PRODUCT UPDATE

Sturdy Blister Materials

Blisters are fast becoming the packaging format of choice

Packaging tablets, capsules, gel caps, and caplets in blisters offers manufacturing benefits. Blisters encourage patient compliance, provide a convenient format for portable dispensing, and offer an effective moisture and light barrier to protect efficacy and extend shelf life.

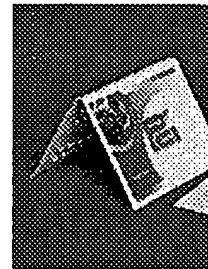


Blister backing materials include paper/foil unsupported push-through foils, and cold-form for child-resistant structures. The foils meet a variety of storage, distribution, and sterilization requirements for different types of blister packages. Heat-seal coatings applied in-house provide reliable performance for peelable or permanent seals for push-through blisters sealable to PVC, PVC/PVDC, PVC/Aclar, PET, and PE. **Hueck Foils LLC**, Manasquan, NJ.

Blister packaging films are specially developed for use with pharmaceutical devices. Compared to conventional three-layer laminations, two-layer Pentapharm film eliminates a layer of polyethylene, resulting in reduced haze value, less scrap, and 25% more linear feet per roll. Other products include Pentamed rigid vinyl, PE Barex film as well as PVDC-coated and laminated barrier films. Under the fully Optima system, the company will buy back edge trim from those customers who use both Pentapharm blister packaging films and Optilid push-through vinyl lid stock. Pentapharm offers the same printability, sealability, and machinability of foil lid stock yet e-

package flatness, thereby permitting faster cartoning. **Klöckner Pentaplast Inc.**, Gordonsville, VA.

A child-resistant package developed for tablets and capsules features a built-in compliance feature to help patients take medications properly. To use the Slide Pack, patients punch out the perforated section on the card to expose a clearly marked circular opening. The patient then inserts a finger into the opening and slides the plastic to the right, exposing the foil backing behind the blisters. While holding the card in this position, the patient uses the other hand to simply push medication through the foil from the blister cavity. The Slide Pack can be adapted to meet specific package design requirements. **Packaging Coordinators Inc.**, Philadelphia, PA.



Specialty plastic packaging films are cost-effective options for the healthcare industry. Films include moisture-barrier Aclar films, which are constantly being refined to provide an attractive cost/performance ratio; clear, sealable Aclam laminations for replacement of OxyShield nylon-based coextrusions for protection against oxygen and other gases; and Capran Emblem biax nylon, which is strong and resistant to chemicals. **Allied Specialty Films**, Morristown, NJ.

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